

GOLDBAR | LEADER

Volume 21, No. 4

Western Region Cadet Command

Fort Lewis, Washington

December 2004



Photo by Andrew Nenque - The University Star

Texas State University - San Marcos Celebrates Veterans Day

By Steven Corbett

Commander

My son Nathan is a fourth grader. As the Presidential election unfolded this fall, his class studied the historical foundations and structure of our government, with particular emphasis on the document that founded our country. As I helped him with his homework over the past three months, we read and analyzed the Constitution. Ten-year-olds are not the only Americans who should read and re-read this precious and unique document on a regular basis.

At every Warrior Forge graduation, I am privileged to issue the oath of office to cadets who have completed their college and ROTC requirements and are commissioned. Our oath as officers is prescribed by Article II of the Constitution, and is nearly identical to that taken by every President of the United States since George Washington.

"I, (name), having been appointed an officer in the Army of the United States, in the grade of second lieutenant, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the



United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office upon which I am about to enter; SO HELP ME GOD."

Many of us forget who and what our oath binds us to. Upon enlistment, we swear to obey the orders of the President of the United States, and the orders of the officers appointed over us. Our oath of office as *commissioned officers* is specifically focused upon upholding the Constitution. All

officers take this same oath, but few of us have read this document to which we swear our honor and our lives. We do not swear an oath to anyone by name. Our loyalty as officers in America's Army is to America, to our system of government, the Constitution and all that it contains.

With the recent Presidential election behind us, I must say this was the most divisive campaign for the White House since I was old enough to read. But regardless of the outcome, whether "our man" won or lost, it is immaterial to us as officers and future officers. Our oath is to the *Constitution*, and the President elected under the powers of that document – regardless of our personal feelings about any candidate. In fact, it is *illegal* for officers to publicly criticize the President, the Vice President and certain other governmental officials. Article 88 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, "*Contempt Toward Officials*," serves not to inhibit our rights of free speech, but rather to remind us that our duties and our loyalties are to the President due to his (or her) Constitutional authority.

The role of Army officers in our political system can be a complicated one. Several generals, such as

Washington, Harrison, Taylor, Grant and Eisenhower were elected President. By the same token, generals such as Scott, McClellan and Hancock have sought, and lost, the elected office of commander-in-chief. Our role in the 21st century is clear. It is the same role that runs from one generation of officers to the next for almost 220 years -- "To support and defend the Constitution of the United States, against all enemies, foreign or domestic."

The focus of our training for Junior ROTC cadets is to make them better citizens of the United States. I believe that we *all* must become better citizens; an important facet of that is to understand the true underpinnings of our nation and our form of government. I urge all officers to re-read the Constitution on the anniversary of your commissioning. By our oath of office, we imply that we will lay down our lives, and those of our soldiers, for this wonderful document, and all that it contains. We should understand why America is unique and precious, and why our role in defending her is a sacred one, made so by our oath, "*So help me God.*"

By Lewis Ferguson

Command Sergeant Major

With another school year under way, we're all seeing the typical dangers of our environment baring their teeth. Almost daily headquarters staff sees a new Serious Incident Report in their e-mail inbox.

So far this year we've seen near fatal accidents, break-ins and thefts, and inappropriate relationships. And as I write this it's only November.

While the typical ROTC environment may not be exactly like being on the ground in Iraq or Afghanistan, we must still be focused, situationally aware and prepared to encounter pitfalls daily. Our command's leadership expects to see *Risk Management* – that program of making smart decisions in the face of everyday events – to be embedded in



everything we do.

Some dangers we face in our roles can be eliminated altogether, like inappropriate relationships. To steal from the Nike tag line: "*Just Don't Do It.*"

Other situations can be avoided with a little forethought. Are you heading home for the holidays? Will you be

driving? Then use good judgement behind the wheel and don't overextend yourself. You can't do anything to avoid disaster if you're asleep at the wheel.

People are the Army's most important asset. Every minute of lost duty time is a minute that a Soldier loses to training and readiness – and that could cost lives.

Equipment and physical resources are also important to the Army. When we fail to properly care for and control our equipment, we deny fellow Soldiers the chance to use it – and that could cost lives too.

I encourage you to measure your actions carefully, in light of the fact that you are a Soldier, or will be one day, and your actions affect everyone around you.

I wish you and your families a happy – *and safe* – holiday season.



Photo by Andrew Nenque, The University Star

On the Cover

Air Force and Army ROTC cadets Kevin Murphy, left, and Charles Hoke post the colors at Texas State University - San Marcos as a crowd commemorates the nation's 86th Veterans Day.



Col. Steven R. Corbett

Commander

Western Region, U.S Army Cadet Command

This Army-funded newspaper is an authorized publication for the members of the U.S. Army and the Reserve Officer's Training Corps. Contents of the *Goldbar Leader* and *Warrior Leader* newspapers are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government or the Department of the Army. The editorial content of this publication is the property of the U.S. Army Cadet Command Western Region Public Affairs Office, and is printed under exclusive written contract in accordance with Army Regulation 360-1. Printed circulation is about 5,500. Submission of stories and photos by Western Region headquarters, ROTC, and JROTC organizations is encouraged. The editor reserves the right to edit all submitted material based on space limitations and command policy. Submissions, letters, and inquiries should be addressed to: HQ Western Region, U.S. Army Cadet Command, ATTN: ATOW-ZP (PAO), Box 339500, Fort Lewis, WA, 98433-9500. Additional contact via phone, fax, and e-mail is acceptable. Voice: (253) 967-7473; Fax: (253) 967-9581; E-mail: jeremy.obryan@us.army.mil.

Public Affairs Officer -- Bob Rosenburgh

Editor, Deputy PAO -- Jeremy O'Bryan

E. Texas rivalry begins with game ball relay

By Jeremy O'Bryan

Western Region Public Affairs

A recently revived tradition had cadets chasing through the Piney Woods of East Texas in October. Their mission: deliver the game ball to Lumberjack Stadium in time for the Battle of the Piney Woods – an annual football game between Sam Houston State and Stephen F. Austin University held this year on Oct. 30.

Twenty-two cadets ran the ball about five miles each from the 50-yard line of Bowers Stadium in Huntsville along a 110-mile route to SFA's stadium in Nacogdoches.

"The Bearkat cadets took it upon themselves to revive this tradition," said Lt. Col. P. Alan Mooneyham, SHSU professor of military science. "This is the third year in a row they've run the two-day relay."

The last SHSU cadet finished that school's part of the run about 55 miles from Huntsville; the hand-off to an SFA cadet took place and the relay continued. The ball arrived at Lumberjack Stadium in time for the kick-off of one of Texas's most intense sporting rivalries.

Sam Houston went ahead with 17 seconds left in the game to a 31-28 victory over Stephen F. Austin.



Photo courtesy of University of Alabama

Crimson Pride

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. – The University of Alabama's pre-game festivities Sept. 11 at Bryant-Denny Stadium were dedicated to those serving in the United States military since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Overseeing the celebration was Lt. Gen. John Vines, commander of the 18th Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, N.C., a 1971 UA alumnus and a product of the University of Alabama's Army ROTC program. Delivering the game ball were members of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines, led by Vines. Members of the current University of Alabama Army ROTC cadre were also recognized in the ceremony.

Fightin' Irish prayer breakfast honors Patriots Day

By Staff Sgt. Corrie Brisson

Notre Dame University

The Fightin' Irish Battalion at Notre Dame held its first-ever prayer breakfast Sept. 11 in recognition of Patriots Day. The event featured two special guests: U.S. Army Deputy Chief of Chaplains, Brig. Gen. Jerome Haberek, and Chaplain (Maj.) James Brisson, 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Brisson shared the story of Sgt. Andrew Baddick, an 82nd Airborne Division paratrooper and Notre Dame fan who sacrificed his life to save a Soldier recently in Iraq. Baddick was on a convoy to search out enemy forces who had been firing into a prison that was established and protected by U.S. troops.

As the convoy turned on the embankment of a river, the vehicle in front of Baddick's overshot its angle and flipped into the rising water. Two of the passengers escaped on their own, while Baddick left his vehicle and jumped into the river to save the two remaining



Photo by Cadet Ryan Larson

The Fightin' Irish Battalion at Notre Dame University bow in silence Sept. 11 during their unit's first prayer breakfast.

soldiers. He was able to save the first, but on his second attempt the vehicle became completely submerged. Neither Baddick nor the other Soldier resurfaced.

Brisson said he shared the story to "remind us of the unknown heroes who fight for freedom and justice all over the world."

Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) Haberek reminded the cadets of those who fell in the attacks of September 11, 2001, as well as those

who have fought in the following Global War on Terror, to include Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Haberek said cadets today face a tough challenge.

"The United States called upon its youth to fight against a powerful enemy during World War II," Haberek said. "The nation now calls upon the youth of our generation to rise up, and defeat a powerful terrorist threat."

The prayer breakfast was an excellent opportunity for cadets in the Fightin' Irish Battalion to turn their thoughts and prayers to those who have fallen in the War on Terror, said Cadet Vanessa Hooper-Yan, and was reminded "of the part we play in the Army's continual efforts to make the world a safer place."

"It set the tone for the 9/11 ceremony," Hooper-Yan said, "and served as a reminder to us of how we are still deeply involved with, and affected by, the events of September 11."

CWU Ranger Challenge wins four in a row

Capt. Tyler Oxley

Central Washington University

ELLENSBURG, Wash. – For the fourth consecutive year, Central Washington University's Army ROTC Ranger Challenge team was victorious in their quest for the Task Force Cascade Ranger Challenge Cup. This year's event was held Oct. 23-24 at Eastern Washington University. The competition pitted CWU's male and co-ed teams against teams from the University of Washington, Seattle University and EWU.

"This was the largest margin of victory ever," said CWU Team Captain Cadet Gabe Bowns. "We really expected UW and Seattle University to be tough. UW is a big Division 1 school and we expected to be challenged. Going up against schools like that really helps to motivate us."

The two-day Ranger Challenge competition consists of a physical fitness test (as many push-ups and sit-ups a cadet can do in two minutes, plus a two-mile run), timed weapons assembly/disassembly, 300-meter grenade assault course, 40-foot rope bridge and a timed orienteering course worth 40 points. The competition concludes on Day Two with a grueling 10-kilometer road march in full combat gear and 35-pound rucksack.

The competition began early Saturday morning with opening ceremonies followed by the fitness test. The test was completed quickly and the results tabulated placing the SU teams into an early lead and CWU in close second. Following the fitness test the action moved to Camp Sekani, 30 minutes from Cheney along the Spokane River.

The teams rotated through the Camp Sekani events in 90-minute intervals each performing nearly neck-and-neck until the orienteering event. CWU's male team pulled clearly away from the competition during orienteering.

"We really worked hard on land navigation at Reecer Creek and Lions Rock," said Cadet Michael Ratcliffe, a 3rd year competitor. "Camp Sekani was easy by comparison."

The following day the team would secure victory with the road march. The male team completed the 6.2-mile road march through Cheney in 67 minutes. The University of



Photo by Capt. Tyler Oxley

Central Washington University's Ranger Challenge team took home their fourth consecutive victory – this year by the widest margin ever. Cadets Dave Lowe, Devon Patrick, Josh Bowns and Chris Franco, above, were part of the CWU's co-ed team, which also took 1st Place. Other schools competing were Seattle University, the University of Washington and Eastern Washington University.

Washington, considered one of the stronger teams in the conference, completed the march in a blistering 64 minutes.

"Gabe drove us hard on that march" said Cadet Hans Valverde, a first year competitor. "He really pushed us hard from start to finish. We came in about three minutes behind the fastest team."

UW's performance wasn't enough to threaten the lead established by CWU during orienteering, however, and CWU's second-place road march finish was enough to keep SU at bay and secure a first place overall finish.

The Wildcat Battalion Co-Ed team became the story of the competition. The team came back from last place and a 100-point deficit following events

at Camp Sekani. A disappointing performance on the orienteering and grenade assault courses placed CWUs Co-Ed team fourth overall by Saturday evening. SU's co-ed team held down first place and what appeared to be a commanding lead.

"Going into the final day of competition we knew we had to beat SU's Co-Ed team in the road march by 15 minutes to have any chance at winning," said Co-Ed Team Captain Monica Colgan. "We really had to push ourselves to find the drive to win the road march."

The team was unaware they had closed the points gap and overtaken Seattle University going into the awards ceremony. "It was a total shock when we were called forward to receive the cup," said Cadet Chris Franco, a first year competitor on the Co-Ed team "we really had no idea we had won up until that point, no idea at all."

This year's victory was the result of a rigorous training regimen that had cadets practicing daily at 6:30 in the morning and Saturdays and Sundays.

"We're really at a disadvantage compared to most schools," said Cadet Adam Nixon. "The (school) year at CWU starts in late September, versus several weeks earlier for most of the other schools – so there is less time to train."

The team was concerned that competition would be fiercer than years past with the addition of the University of Washington to the Task Force Cascade Conference. UW failed to emerge as a threat prior to going into Sunday's road march.

"They surprised us," said Cadet Robert Johnston, referring to UW's road march finish of 64 minutes. But UW still failed to move their final standing up from third place. Seattle University held onto second.

In addition to both CWU teams winning their respective classes, men's Team Captain Gabe Bowns received a separate award for achieving the highest physical fitness score in the competition. Cadet Bowns completed 97 pushups, 113 sit-ups and completed the 2 mile run in 12:09 resulting in an individual APFT score of 369.

The team departed EWU for Ellensburg in high spirits.

"I used to wrestle, and that was fun," said Cadet Tom Lorenson, a first year competitor, "but this, this is absolutely awesome."



Photo by Capt. Tyler Oxley

Central Washington University's Ranger Challenge teams traveled to Eastern Washington University to claim their 4th consecutive Ranger Challenge title. The team members are (kneeling) Josh Bowns, Michael Ratcliffe, Adam Nixon, Monica Colgan, and Dave Lowe; (standing) Gabe Bowns, Ryan Jacobson, Charles West, Hans Valverde, Glenn West, Martin Hayes, Thomas Lorenson, Wyatt Ottmar, Robert Johnston, Marco Brettman, Devin Patrick, Josephus Carlile, Chris Franco and George Rutt.

PLU Ranger Challenge team hits the trail south to Oregon

By Cadets Janie Huffman
and Myra Waldher
Pacific Lutheran University

CAMP RILEA, Ore. – “Blood, Sweat and Tears” was the theme of the weekend Nov. 6-7 as cadets from Pacific Lutheran University experienced lost body parts, the heat of competition and the emotions of success. PLU faced off against six other teams from the University of Oregon, the University of Portland and Oregon State University in the 2004 Ranger Challenge competition.

PLU’s team of nine cadets had been conducting intense training six days a week for the past eight weeks to prepare for event, which began early on a Saturday morning and lasted until 10 a.m. Sunday. PLU took fourth place overall against six other teams.

Seniors Brett Bartell and Amy Bowen were the officers in charge of the team.

“We began planning in April,” Bowen said. “We wanted the training to be hard enough to prepare everyone for the competition. We were excited to see how our work would pay off.”

The competition is comprised of six events: the Army Physical Fitness Test, a hand grenade assault course, M-16 disassembly, land navigation, a rope bridge crossing and a 10-kilometer ruck run.

The PLU team did not go alone to the competition. They took five other cadets, members of the traveling team, who trained with them in hopes to compete next year, along with some seniors and instructors for support.

PLU sophomore Bethany Harvey, who is new to ROTC this year, was



Photos by Maj. Todd Emoto

Above: Pacific Lutheran University cadets steady the rope for another traversing a water obstacle in which bystanders are reflected. **Below:** Cadet Janie Huffman helps Cadets Brian Bradshaw and Ryan Alarcon plot their course in the land navigation portion of the Ranger Challenge event.

a member of the traveling team. She says training with the team has given her an advantage over her peers and an opportunity to see ROTC’s strongest cadets in action.

“I joined the team because I wanted to be tough – I thought it would be fun, and it has been. It’s good discipline,” said Harvey.

PLU received its first award at the beginning of the competition, when team captain Nate Maloney won the push-up portion of the APFT by completing 90 push-ups in two minutes.

Immediately following the APFT, the team received its second award for having the best time in the hand grenade assault course – grenade throws separated by a wall jump, a barbed wire crawl and other obstacles.

In the final event of the first day, PLU suffered its only injury. While helping to build a rope bridge, Eric Lee ripped his thumbnail in half on a metal carabiner. ROTC nurses assisted the medics in dressing

the wound. Alternate Amy Forza took his place for the remainder of the competition.

This is PLU’s first year competing in this region. University of Portland senior Zach Szody said he’s glad PLU joined this year’s competition. He said it gives Oregon schools a chance to see how other regions train and it adds to the competition.

“I thought the team did very well, and I was very impressed with their professionalism throughout the competition,” said Maj. Gillian Boice, Professor of Military Science at PLU. She says she thought highly of the team when they displayed teamwork, cohesion and focus no matter what hardships they encountered.

The ROTC cadets had the opportunity to meet Shawn Goins, 13th Brigade’s sergeant major, who came to observe the competition.

“The PLU program is outstanding,” Goins said. “We have two quality leaders who just came to the program, so with their guidance and vision, PLU will only get better.”

“PLU already ranks high across the nation – they can only get better from this year to next,” Goins said.

UND cadet tops at Air Assault

By Maj. Stuart Beckman
University of North Dakota

Only select Soldiers finish the U.S. Army Air Assault School the first time through. Fewer still finish with honors, a feat that requires the right amounts of physical, mental and emotional toughness.

In May 2004, Cadet Jeremy Brown, University of North Dakota, was designated a Distinguished Honor Graduate at the air assault school.

The school, held at Fort Campbell, Ky., is an indoctrination course to the 101st Airborne Division, designed to prepare soldiers to conduct air assault operations. The eleven-day course is one of the most grueling in the Defense Department’s catalog – not just physically, but academically as well.

Brown, formerly an Army firefighter in Alaska and currently a student at the University of North Dakota, is also a member of the school’s Helicopter Flight Training Program. A \$93,500 scholarship pays for flight fees for approximately 165-175 hours of “stick time” the students receive while pursuing an aviation degree at the university.

Brown has also completed Army Airborne training, has logged more than 250 hours of helicopter flight time and earned a commercial helicopter license with instrument rating.

“I got word that an Air Assault school position was available,” Brown said, “and I immediately began preparing.” During the Air Assault course, students learn aircraft recognition, safety, sling load preparation and inspection, sling load operations and rappelling. The culmination of the training is a 90-foot aircraft rappel and a 12-mile ruck march completed in less than three hours.

To be selected as honor graduate, the student must have the highest grade-point-average in the class (at least 90 percent), must be taking the course for the first time, have no major safety violations and pass every test the first time through.

“Although I earned the highest distinction,” Brown explained “there were many other cadets and Soldiers in my class who worked just as hard. I am proud to have represented Cadet Command and UND.”

He said lessons he learned at the course will stay with him.





Photo by Jerry Rolwes

Ellen (left) and Glen Anderson talk with their son, Cadet Mark Anderson, a Whitworth College freshman, at the 2004 Fall Family Weekend, held Oct. 23. More than 140 family members traveled to the university to see how their sons and daughters – members of the Bulldog Battalion – live and train. Anderson is a Spokane native.

Families join Bulldogs, see cadet life first-hand

Field Report

Gonzaga University

More than 140 Gonzaga University Bulldog Battalion parents and family members recently hit the training sites and campuses their sons and daughters call home, taking the opportunity to observe cadet life in a realistic and tactical environment.

Fall Family Weekend, a program developed in 1997 with 38 family members attending, helps family members understand the kinds of leadership development training their cadets are experiencing, said Lt. Col. Alan Westfield, enrollment officer and assistant professor of military science.

"It connects parents with sons and daughters," Westfield said. "Watching a Squad Situational Training Exercise mission, followed by an after-action review, shines light into the cadets' world."

"Not only do families witness the physical and mental challenges that the cadets confront, they also see the high caliber people with whom they associate on a daily basis.

Family members leave with more than just the satisfaction of visiting their respective cadet, Westfield said.

"The bonding that occurs between family members is magical. Additionally, Fall Family Weekend serves as a building block for a long term relationship between families and the Bulldog Battalion."

After an on-campus introduction by Lt. Col. Joel Armstrong, Gonzaga professor of military

science, family members boarded buses and were transported to the training site at Camp Seven Mile in northwest Spokane. Families observed cadets engaged in the full range of activities required by Squad STX training.

"The leadership development training is serious, tough, and professional. At the end of the experience, family members have gained an appreciation for what their sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, and in some cases grandchildren and spouses, are doing to prepare to become leaders of competence and character in the world's best Army."

The Bulldog Battalion's program is a unique opportunity for families to see cadets analyzing situations, executing orders, leading troops, operating in teams and reacting to enemy contact.

The cadets displayed confidence as they successfully completed missions.

"I thought it was great to have our parents see everything we've learned," said Garrett Whittaker, a first-year cadet. "They got a feel for all the training we have to undergo."

After the training, lunch was provided for cadets and their families, the meals for family members paid for by the university's operating budget for the Department of Military Science – evidence of the ongoing support the department receives from Gonzaga University.

The Bulldog Battalion is comprised of 93 cadets from Gonzaga University, Whitworth College, and the Intercollegiate College of Nursing.

Cadet careers take off with helicopter training program

By Bob Rosenburgh

Western Region Public Affairs

Of all the ways the Army has to get new aviators into their ranks, no one has an appeal to would-be pilots like the Helicopter Flight Training Program, available to Army ROTC cadets at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks.

Only at the Fighting Sioux Battalion can a cadet not only complete his or her degree on an Army scholarship, but also have helicopter flight costs paid to become licensed and rated civilian helicopter pilots.

"We have young men and women from all over the country," said Lt. Col. Robert Oseles, UND's professor of military science, "to include DOD dependants from Europe and the Pacific, who apply for our HFTP scholarships. Each year we have between 60 to 70 high school seniors and 15 to 20 college freshman apply for the program."

The university has a variety of aviation degrees that qualify for HFTP. The choices include: Aviation Management, Airport Management, Commercial Aviation, Flight Education, Air Traffic Control and Aviation Systems Management.

As part of their fleet of more than 120 fixed wing and helicopter aircraft, UND uses the Schweitzer 300 helicopter for initial rotary-wing training and the Bell 206 JetRanger for turbine transition in support of the HFTP. Each cadet in the program receives between 165-175 hours of "stick time" in the seat of an aircraft and receives their private, commercial and instrument ratings on helicopters at the university.

To qualify for this one-of-a-kind opportunity, would-be cadets must have at least three years remaining at UND, meet the standard for passing the Army Physical Fitness Test, pass the Army Class 1A Flight Physical, and score at least a 90 on the Army Aviation Flight Aptitude Skills Test. They must carry an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher, have an ACT score of 19 or above and be enrolled in Army ROTC. One of the prerequisites of the program is that each HFTP candidate must obtain, at their own expense, a fixed wing private pilots license.

Each year UND Army ROTC awards numerous flight scholarships. These scholarships pay up to \$93,500 and cover the actual 165-175 flight hours that students fly during their sophomore, junior and seniors years. Besides the HFTP flight scholarship, prospective cadets can also qualify for the traditional four-, three- or two-year ROTC scholarships – up to \$20,000 a year for tuition, \$900 a year for books and lab fees, including a tiered stipend of \$250 to \$400 a month for ten months based on class level.

Eighty percent of the Army's Aviation jobs are open to both men and women, so the HFTP is an opportunity available to all cadets who qualify.

"Our program produces some outstanding Army aviators," Oseles said. "Many of the aviation lieutenants who complete the program go on to be ranked in the top 20 percent of their flight class at Fort Rucker. The four-year degree in aviation, 170 flight hours of actual flight training, and the leadership skills they obtain through ROTC put them a step ahead of their peers at flight school."

Wheaton cadets earn university, state recognition

By Jeremy O'Bryan

Western Region Public Affairs

Two key cadets in northern Illinois' Rolling Thunder Battalion recently earned prestigious awards, "reflecting great credit upon" Wheaton College's ROTC program. Second Lt. Benjamin Kayser, a Gold Bar Recruiter, and Cadet Scott Smith are both affiliated with Olivet Nazarene University, Wheaton's partnership school.

Kayser

Kayser, who earned a bachelor's degree from the university in 2001 and graduated with a Master's in Business Administration in May, was Olivet's recipient of the 2004 Ralph E. Perry Student Award for Excellence. The award is bestowed upon an outstanding graduate of the university's School of Graduate and Adult Studies based on academic achievement, community involvement, character, selfless service and potential.

"(Ben) has displayed a mental toughness and attitude seldom seen on campus. He approaches tasks with an all-out mentality," said Dr. Dick Balboa,



Kayser and Smith

interim director of academic services for the school.

Ranked No. 6 out of 5,000 ROTC graduates across the country in 2004, Kayser is a distinguished military graduate named the top cadet in his regiment at the 2003 National Advanced Leadership Course at Fort Lewis, according to his battalion's professor of military science, Lt. Col. Scott Buhmann.

During his academic career, Kayser was an all-conference baseball player who pitched in the college world series; co-captain of a Ranger Challenge programs whose teams finished first, second and third in the 2003 Iron Brigade competition; and a substitute

teacher for 35 hours a week in an inner-city schools. He graduated with a cumulative 3.9 grade-point average.

Smith

Smith, currently a senior at Olivet and a cadet at Wheaton College, was honored with the Student Laureate Award of the Lincoln Academy of Illinois, which annually recognizes one outstanding senior from four-year colleges across the state who exemplifies the spirit and values of achievement in curricular and extracurricular activities.

A history major from Brooksville, Fla., Smith is an avid community volunteer who has taught children from preschoolers to second grade in the scouting program at Kankakee's First Church of the Nazarene; mentored high school students through the local Youth for Christ program; participated in mission trips to Italy and Spain; was elected to student government three years running; and was a Ranger Challenge team member for four years, never finishing below 2nd Place in the 9th Brigade. Smith maintains a cumulative grade-point average of 3.8.

"I don't feel as though I've done

anything aside from what the Lord led my hand to doing," Smith said. "The Lord has been the light to my path as he has led me step by step, and I just hope that through this honor, His name might be glorified."

Kayser and Smith are not only winners in the eyes of some well-respected programs – they also have the respect of their cadre.

"Scott and Ben are both men of true strength and character," said Buhmann. "Their accomplishments and awards speak for themselves. More importantly, they are extremely humble, routinely put others before themselves and look forward to serving selflessly. I couldn't be more proud."

Olivet Nazarene University has been a partnership school since the early 1980s.

"Currently, about one-third of our program is at Olivet," Buhmann explained. "The school gives us outstanding support, and we have developed into one of the most highly respected programs on the campus. I attribute that directly to the quality of our cadets. Scott and Ben really are representative of the whole battalion."

2nd Louie

By Bob Rosenburgh

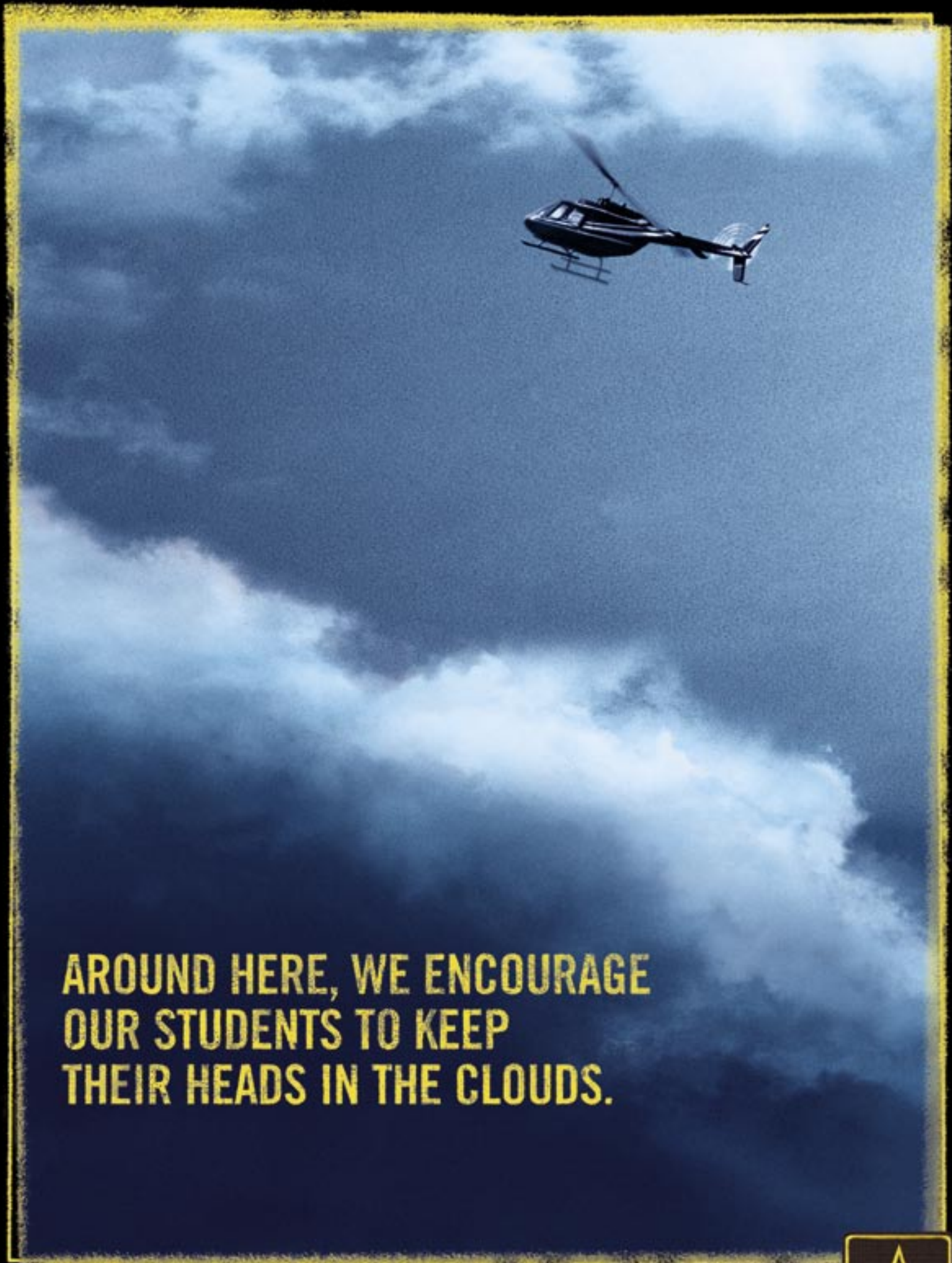


Photo by Cadet Anna Rosenberg

Cadet Nathan Sauvageau, University of Oregon, works his way to the top of "The Tough One," a climbing obstacle on the Spencer Butte High Ropes Course that rises over 40 feet. More than 60 freshman at the university who are enrolled in military science classes set out to conquer the course, building teamwork and problem-solving skills and overcoming personal fears.

What did your battalion do today?
Get recognized in the Leader!
Call the editor at (253) 967-7473.





©2004. Paid for by Army ROTC. All rights reserved.

**AROUND HERE, WE ENCOURAGE
OUR STUDENTS TO KEEP
THEIR HEADS IN THE CLOUDS.**

The University of North Dakota has the only program that lets you take to the skies and earn your college degree at the same time. Fly the world's most sophisticated helicopters while you gain the confidence and leadership skills to help you succeed now, and in the future. You'll graduate as a pilot and an Officer in the U.S. Army. And you'll soar. For details, give us a call at 1-877-768-ROTC or visit www.flyrotc.com



U.S. ARMY

® AN ARMY OF ONE®